

AFN, Inc. Johnson-O'Malley Prog.

The Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. Johnson-O'Malley program, under the direction of Gordon Jackson, has announced that they will begin receiving Johnson-O'Malley proposals until March 15.

Over 400 applications have been sent to eligible applicants and these proposals will be considered for funding by the Johnson-O'Malley review committee.

The committee, which comprises 12 members, one from each of the 12 Native regional corporations, is chaired by Mrs. Nettie Peratrovich.

Johnson-O'Malley funds are used to support and fund "sup-

plemental and enrichment" education programs for Alaska Native students attending public schools.

Johnson-O'Malley funds are appropriated annually by Congress and administered by Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc. by

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contract from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

It is not known at this time what level of funding will go to the Johnson-O'Malley program but it is anticipated that it will remain the same as last year's \$4,625,000.

Eligible applicants for Johnson-O'Malley funds are Alaska school districts, educational organizations, Native organizations and organizations within Alaska which provide various benefits to Native students not otherwise available from existing educational systems.

The proposals are to be evaluated in terms of need, direct benefits to Native students at the elementary and secondary levels, and reaching the most Native students possible.

The Johnson-O'Malley review committee, chaired by Mrs. Nettie Peratrovich of Anchorage, has been quite active and was recently involved in a decision to fund the state's boarding school and limited cultural enrichment programs for 1,500 rural school children.

The review committee pledged to cut-off federal JOM funding this next fiscal year for the state's boarding home program because of their belief that it be paid out of the state's general fund.